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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: ARÇELIK A.Ş. [TR/TR]; Ar-ge Dept., E5 Ankara Asfalti Üzeri, Tuzla, 81719 Istanbul (TR).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: ÜNAL, Hakan [TR/TR]; Arçelik A.Ş., Eskişehir Buzdolabi Işletmesi, Organize Sanayi Bölgesi, 26540 Eskişehir (TR). ŞAHIN, Ebru [TR/TR]; Arçelik A.Ş., E5 Ankara Asfalti Üzeri, Tuzla, 81719 Istanbul (TR).

(74) Agent: ANKARA PATENT BUREAU LTD.; Sehit Adem Yavuz Sokak 8/22, Kizilay, 06440 Ankara (TR).

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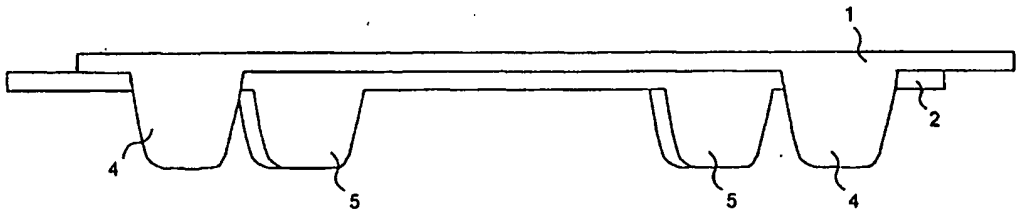

(57) Abstract

The egg tray manufactured according to the egg shape so that the eggs can be stored safely in a certain order in the door shelf (3) of the refrigerator, includes two superimposed egg trays placed in the shelf (3) each having a capacity of eight eggs. The length of the egg tray is changed by pulling the upper egg tray (1) towards the empty portion of the shelf (3) in order to move the egg trays one on the other to provide to change the length of the egg tray and to enable the egg tray to contain any number of eggs allowed by its capacity.

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EGG TRAY FOR REFRIGERATORS

The present invention relates to an egg tray detachable from the door shelf (3), the length of which may be changed according to the number of eggs to be disposed.

The egg trays in the prior art are placed into the door shelves of the refrigerators that have been designed according to their forms. When the user wants to dispose a different product onto the shelf instead of eggs, she or he has to remove this egg tray, whereas when she or he wants to put one egg in the tray, the rest of the tray is unused. In various embodiments, a short shelf is used for eight eggs and a long shelf or two short shelves are used for sixteen eggs, which in turn increases the amount of unused areas in the refrigerator and the costs as well.

Another type of egg tray formed by a fix shelf for holding only the eggs is made by thermoform technique, by giving a stable shape to the refrigerator inner door plastics. If there is no egg stored in this tray, this fixed area cannot be used for other purposes.

The object of the present invention is to utilize the inner section of the shelf effectively, by changing the length of the egg tray according to the number of eggs to be stored in the shelf.

The egg tray according to the present invention is illustrated in the attached drawings wherein:

Figure 1, is the view of the upper egg tray;

Figure 2, is the view of the lower egg tray;

Figure 3, is the front view of the upper and lower egg trays in a superimposed position;

Figure 4, is the side view of the upper and lower egg trays in a superimposed position;

Figure 5, is the 3-D view of the upper and lower egg trays in the shelf;

Figure 6, is the view of the upper shelf with holding holes;

Figure 7, is the view of the upper shelf with holding projections;

The components shown in the drawings have the following numbers;

1. Upper egg tray
2. Lower egg tray
3. Shelf
4. Upper egg tray leg
5. Lower egg leg
6. Holding hole
7. Holding projection

The egg tray is formed by two pieces (1 and 2) placed one on the other, each designed to receive eight eggs. The upper and lower egg trays (1 and 2) are made according to the form of the shelf and their horizontal movement in a superimposed position has been provided by keeping the width of the lower egg tray (2) smaller than the width of the upper egg tray (1). The egg tray is enabled to receive, eight, ten, twelve and sixteen eggs respectively, by pulling the upper egg tray (1) horizontally towards the empty section of the shelf (3); thus providing an efficient use of one shelf (3) for various numbers of eggs. By using only one shelf so that egg trays move one on the other, it is avoided to have unused areas caused by using two fixed shelves.

When the number of eggs to be stored is less than eight, the empty space in the shelf (3) is increased by placing the upper egg tray (1) above the lower egg tray (2).

The legs (4) of the upper egg tray (1) are kept longer than the legs (5) of the lower egg tray (2) in order to prevent the imbalance caused by the difference between the lengths of the legs (4 and 5) of the upper and lower egg trays (1 and 2) as the result of the placement of the eggs in the shelf (3) in such a manner that they move one on the other.

When the upper and lower egg trays are superposed and contain eggs, the upper egg tray (1) has to be raised, removed and re-installed, in order to be able to receive more eggs. This procedure can be facilitated by forming holding holes (6) or holding projections (7) on the upper egg tray (1).

CLAIMS

1. Egg tray for refrigerators characterized by two superimposed egg trays (1 and 2) namely the upper and lower egg trays enabling to contain any number of eggs allowed by the capacity of the egg tray by raising the upper egg tray (1) or by moving it horizontally towards the empty portion of the shelf (3).

2. Egg tray for refrigerators according to Claim 1, characterized by two egg trays in different dimensions wherein the movement of the upper egg tray (1) on the lower one is provided by keeping the width of the lower egg tray (2) smaller than the width of the upper one.

3. Egg tray for refrigerators according to Claims 1 and 2, characterized by the upper egg tray (1) which moves horizontally on the lower egg tray (2) in order to provide to change the number of eggs that can be kept in the upper and lower egg trays.

4. Egg tray for refrigerators according to Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the legs (4) of the upper egg tray (1) are kept longer than the legs (5) of the lower egg tray (2) in order to prevent the imbalance caused by the difference between the lengths of the legs (4 and 5) of the upper and lower egg trays (1 and 2) as the result of the placement of the eggs in the shelf (3) in such a manner that they move one on the other.

5. Egg tray for refrigerators according to Claims 1 to 4, characterized by the holding projections (7) located on the upper egg tray (1) which enables the egg tray to be handled when it contains eggs, and provides the movement of the upper egg tray.

6. Egg tray for refrigerators according to Claims 1 to 4, characterized by the holding holes (6) located on the upper egg tray (1) which enables the egg tray

to be handled when it contains eggs, and provides the movement of the upper egg tray.

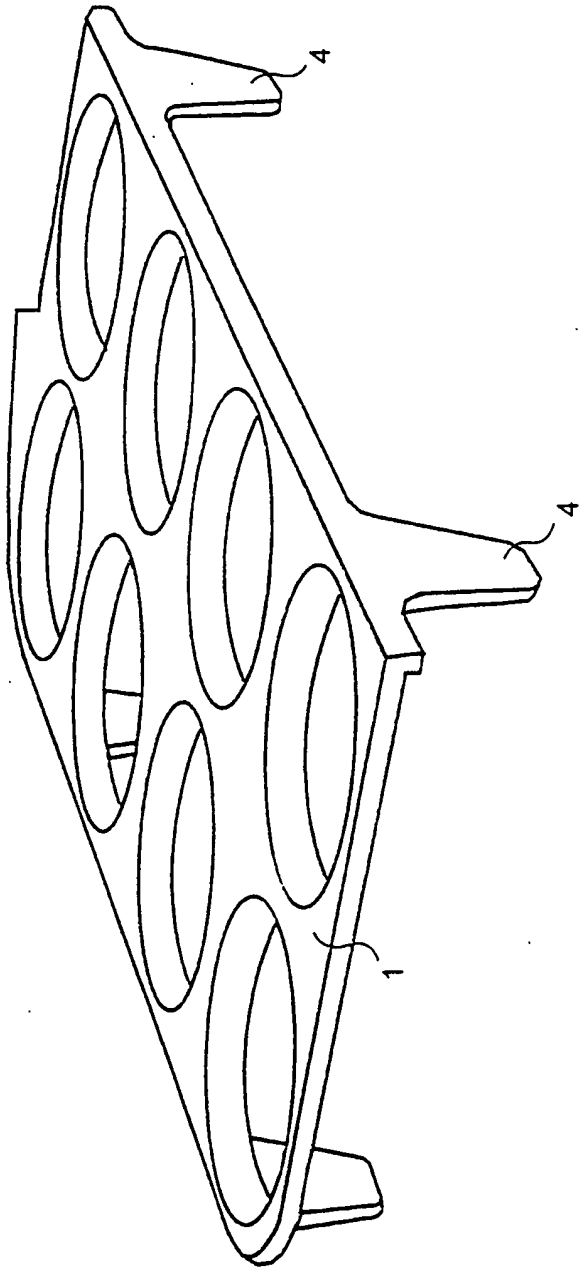

FIGURE 1

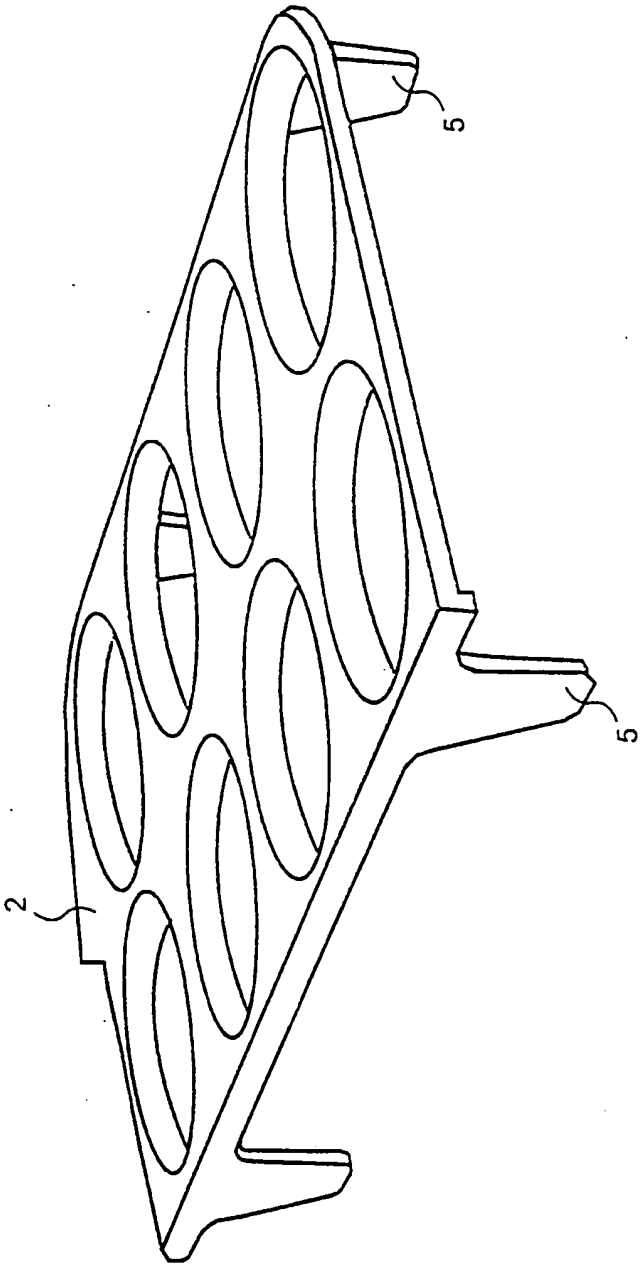

FIGURE 2

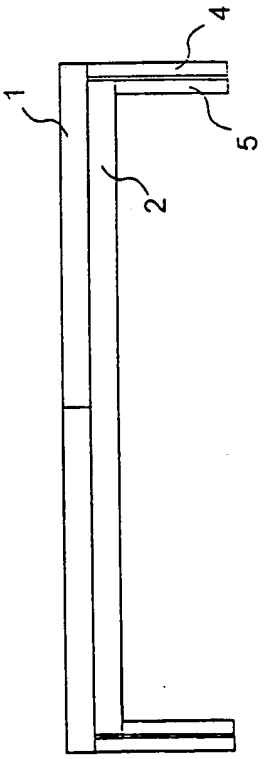

FIGURE 3

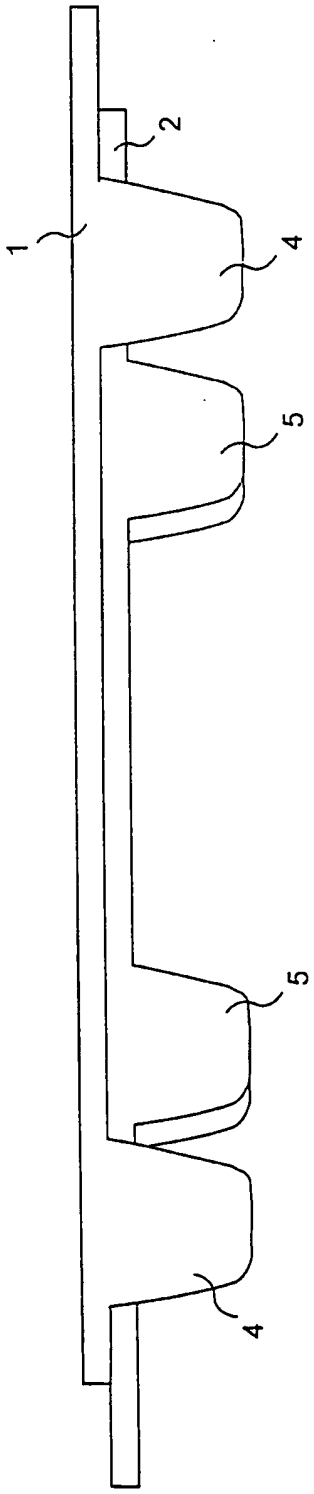

FIGURE 4

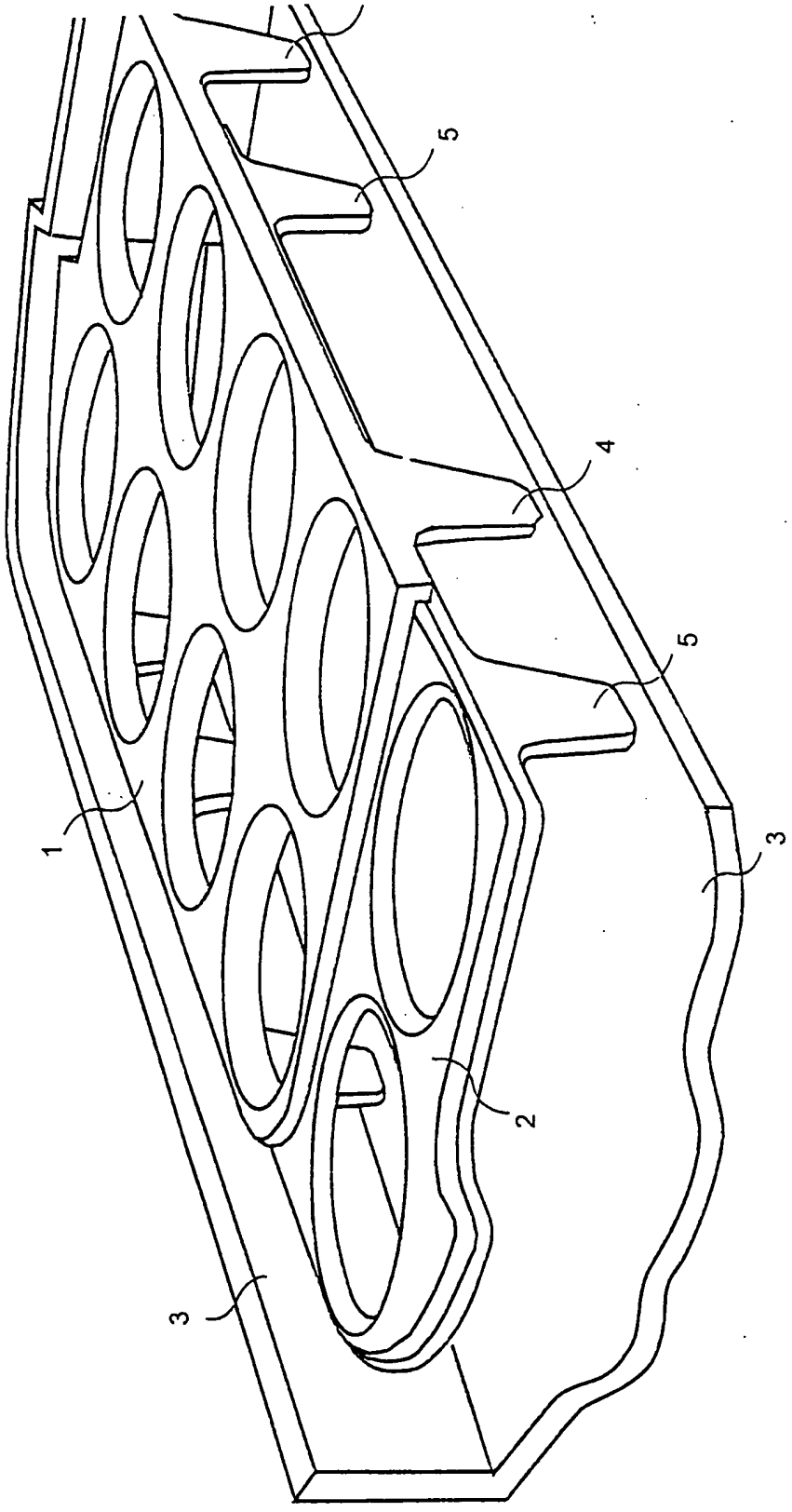

FIGURE 5

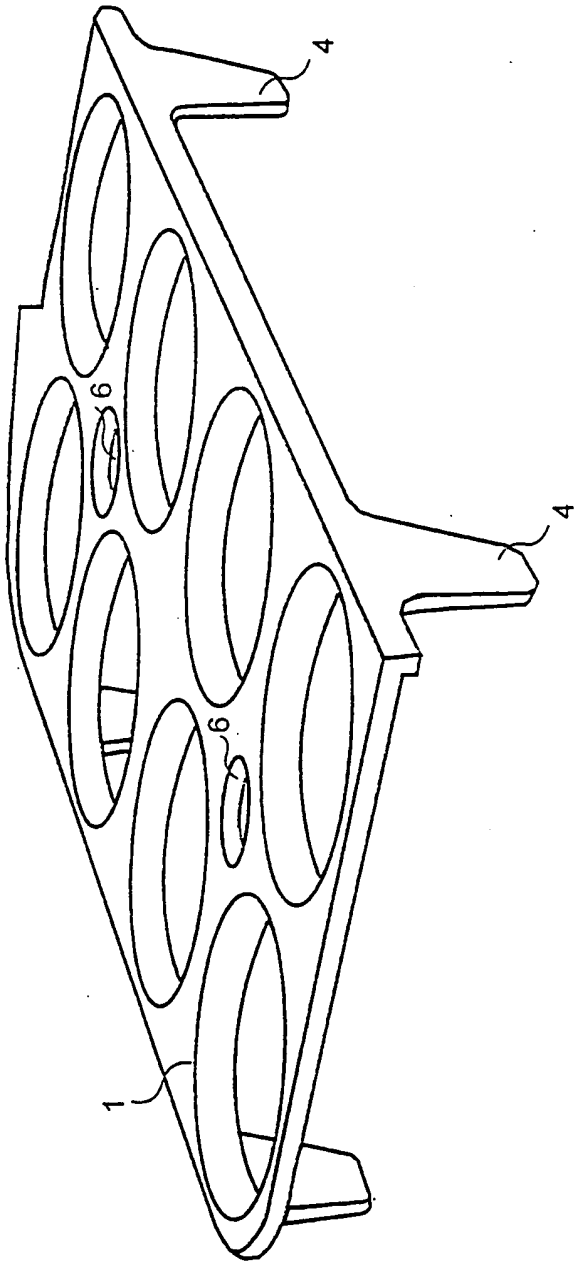

FIGURE 6

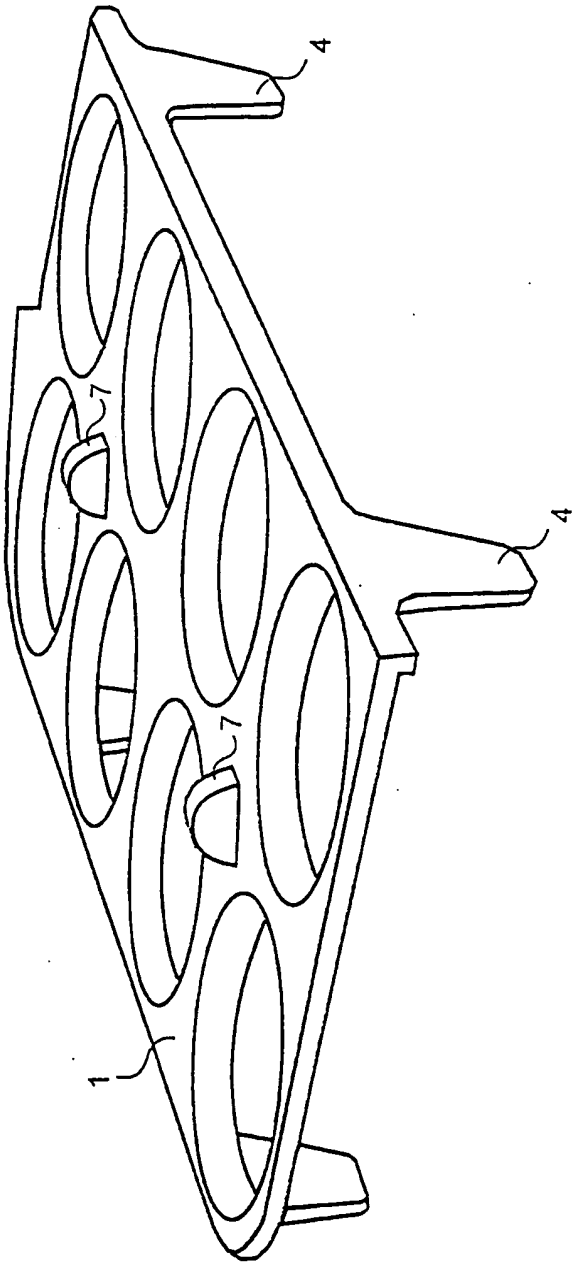

FIGURE 7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/TR 00/00011

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC[7]: F 25 D 23/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC[7]: F 25 D; B 65 D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI, EPODOC, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 03217781 A2 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP.) 25 September 1991 (25.09.91) fig.1-9.	1-3
A	JP 09159353 A2 (KAWASAKI MASATAKA) 20 June 1997 (20.06.97) fig.1-5.	1
A	JP 06147742 A2 (SANYO ELECTRIC) 27 May 1994 (27.05.94) fig.1,2.	1
A	EP 0050394 A1 (GROOTHERDER) 28 April 1982 (28.04.82)	

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Name and mailing adress of the ISA/AT Austrian Patent Office Kohlmarkt 8-10; A-1014 Vienna Facsimile No. 1/53424/535	Authorized officer Wittmann Telephone No. 1/53424/380

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.
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